

Board of Fire Commissioners
Company #1
2825 Main St.

July 7, 2016 - 7:30 P.M.

Present: Commissioner Gilbert Spencer
Commissioner Richard French
Commissioner James Dutton
Commissioner Charles Longo
Commissioner John Cafazzo

Absent: Commissioner Arnold Higgins

Commissioner Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from May 12, 2016 was made by Commissioner Longo and seconded by Commissioner Dutton. Motion passed

Public Comment: None

Chief's Report:

- The revisions to the Department's By-Laws are almost complete. A final draft will be sent to the Town Manager, Human Resources and each Commission member by the end of the July for their review.
- The battery operated Hurst tools that were purchased through the Firehouse Subs Foundation have been delivered to the department. Training with Department members will be schedule before the tools are placed into service.
- The department, in conjunction with the Fire Marshal and staff with Welles Turner Library recently held the first of two Story Time at the Fire House gatherings. Approximately sixty children along with their parents and grandparents attended the event, which was held on July 6th at Station 1. The second session will be July 27th at Station 3.
- Currently the department has one cadet attending the Fire Academy's Introduction to the Fire Service program.
- The department will be conducting its next round of interviews for new recruits. Currently, there are nine recruits to be interviewed. Six of them have graduated from the Department's cadet program.

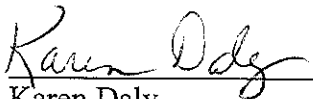
- Chief Thurz spoke to the commissioners about the Captain's vacancy at Station 2. Chief Thurz has suggested that the minimum requirement for Captain be adjusted from Fire Service Instructor I to Firefighter II. The Commissioners agreed that this was the correct action to take at this time. Commissioner Cafazzo also suggested that an officer that currently holds a rank be grandfathered in their current position. With that being said, it is understood that without additional training, an officer could not advance to a higher rank within the Department without the required certification.
- Chief Thurz will repost the Captain's position with the change in requirements for fifteen days. If there are three or less applicants an oral interview with each candidate will be held. If there are four or more candidates then there will be a written test, as well as an oral interview.
- Chief Thurz informed the Commission that Firefighter Matthew Accornero will be appointed Acting Lieutenant at Station 2 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Lieutenant Paternoster in April. The acting Lieutenant's position will be in place until a permanent Captain is appointed and a permanent Lieutenant is named at Station 2.
- The department will be offering a Firefighter I class in the Fall of 2016. A Firefighter II class will be offered during the winter months. Both classes will be conducted in house.
- The per diem program has twenty-six members. Since February 1st, when the program began the department has only had three shifts that could not be filled. Chief Thurz reiterated that he will only fill a shift if two members are available or the shift would be cancelled.
- The per diem staff is working on collecting MSDS information and compiling books specific to each station.
- Commissioner French asked if it would be possible to provide the per diem staff with shirts to identify them as members of the department. Chief Thurz agreed.
- July 19th, Chief Thurz will hold a workshop to explore the future apparatus needs of the Department over the next 10 to 15 years. One representative from each company has been asked to serve. Chief Thurz invited a commissioner to attend, as well.
- Chief Thurz informed the commission that he will be out of town and will miss the August commission meeting. Chief Thurz will ask Assistant Chief Pagliughi to serve in his absence.

Committee Reports: Commissioner Longo reported that the final piece of the revision to the By-Laws has been received and the committee expects to have the final draft by the end of July.

New Business: None

Next Regular Meeting: August 4, 2016 Company 1, 2825 Main Street, 7:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dutton and seconded by Commissioner French. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.


Karen Daly
Recording Secretary

cc: Fire Commission (6)
Fire Chiefs (4)
Fire Captains (3)
John Sikorski, Lieutenant
Richard J. Johnson, Town Manager
Chris Siwy, Fire Marshal
Mary Visone, Purchasing Agent
Robert DiBella, Civil Preparedness